

REMARKS

Claims 16-21 and 28-31 and 38-44 are pending in this application. Claims 16, 38 and 44 are amended herein for clarity to more particularly define the invention. Support for these amendments is found in the language of the original claims and throughout the specification, as set forth below. It is believed that no new matter is added by these amendments. In light of these amendments and the following remarks, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending application, entry of these amendments and allowance of the pending claims to issue.

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 , first paragraph

The Office Action states that claims 16-21, 28-31 and 38-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Specifically, the Office Action states that although the limitations do not need to be verbally and exactly expressed in the specification, the limitations need to be discussed in the specification at some degree and that the newly added concept in the claim language "in the absence of material containing alcohol groups" is not explicitly discussed in the specification. Thus, the Office Action alleges that it constitutes new matter.

Although applicants maintain the position that the recitation of "in the absence of material containing alcohol groups" in the claims does not constitute new matter for all the reasons previously provided, in order to expedite prosecution of these claims to issue, claims 16, 38 and 44 are amended herein to delete this phrase. Support for these amendments is found in the language of the original claims and throughout the specification. Thus, applicants believe

Attorney Docket No. 9310.28CT

In re: Goudsmit et al.

Serial No.: 09/760,085

Filed: January 12, 2001

this rejection has been rendered moot and applicants respectfully request its withdrawal and allowance of the pending claims to issue.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that all of the pending rejections have been adequately addressed and that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned directly if such contact will expedite the examination and allowance of the pending claims.

A check in the amount of \$880.00 (\$770.00 RCE fee and \$110.00 extension fee for one month) is enclosed. This amount is believed to be correct; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary L. Miller
Registration No. 39,303

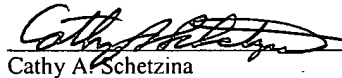
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, P.A.
P. O. Box 37428
Raleigh, North Carolina 27627
Telephone: (919) 854-1400
Facsimile: (919) 854-1401
Customer Number 20792

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 353611020 US

Date of Deposit: November 6, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Cathy A. Schetzina